(a) whether the Central Bank Collectorate, Bombay have arrested a number of persons in connection with evasion of excise duty as reported in the Economic Times of September 26,1991; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 12 persons have been arrested since July, 1991 in cases of evasion of Central Excise duty made put in the jurisdiction of Collector of Central Excise, Bombay-II against seven manufacturers. Five of these manufacturers are textile processors who were prima facie found to be manipulating Central Excise gate passes, with a view to show lesser clearances of excisable goods and thus evade Central Excise duty. Ten persons have been arrested in these cases. In another case, a manufacturer was found to issuing forged excise gate passes to facilitate availing of ineligible Modvat credit. In the remaining one case a manufacturer was suppressing actual production of excisable goods and was also availing ineligible Modvat Credit. One person was arrested in each of these cases. Total duty evasion detected in these cases is estimated at Rs 47.3 lakhs.

**Public Sector Banks in Purnea, Araria and Kishanganj Areas**

328. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE to be pleased to state:

(a) the names of public sector banks serving the districts of Purnea, Araria and Kishanganj, block-wise along with the location of their branches;

(b) the average population served by a bank branch in these districts, district-wise and block-wise,

(c) the location of new bank branches approved for establishment during 1991-92, block-wise, in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The names of Public Sector Banks in the Districts of Purnea, Araria and Kishanganj alongwith the location of their branches are given in the attached statement. Particulars of block-wise number of branches are not available with RBI.

(b) The information regarding average population per bank office (APPBO) in these districts is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The growth of new bank branches under the extant Licensing Policy will depend on a well established need, business potential and financial viability of the proposed branches. Moreover, the opening of branches under the extent licensing policy is a continuous process which will be governed by licenses issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in this regard. Hence, at this stage it is not possible to project the number of branches of banks that will be opened during 1991-92, block-wise, in these Districts.

**STATEMENT**

PURNEA DISTRICT

| *Sl. No.* | *Name of Bank* | *Name of centre* |
|---|---|---|
| *1* | *2* | *3* |
| 1. | Canara Bank | Asja Mowaiya, Purnea. |
| 2. | Central Bank of India | Baisa, Banmankhi, Brahmgyani, Dhamdaha, Gerki, Harda, Harrampur, Jalalgarh, Katari, Malopara, Purnea (2 branches), Rupauli. |
| 3. | State Bank of India | Basia, Balutola, Banmankhi, Barhari, Bhangi, Bhawanipur, Bishunpur, Chopra Bazar, Damaili, Damgara, Dhamdaha, Fakirtoli, Kasba, Machhatta, Purnea (4 branches), Sandpeep, Sarsi, Sirsia, Teldiha. |
| 4. | United Bank of India | Bardela, Bishunpur, Dharhara, Jianganj, Mirchaibari, Purnea. |
| 5. | Allahabad Bank | Belwa, Purnea. |
| 6. | UCO Bank | Goasi, Kasba, Manharia, Mohani, Purnea, Rampur. |
| 7. | Punjab National Bank | Gokulpur, Krityanandnagar, Purnea. |
| 8. | Bank of Baroda | Pithaura, Purnea, Saura Jaber, Taran. |
| ARARIA DISTRICT | | |
| 9. | State Bank of India | Anchra, Araria (4 branches), Bhirbeni, Forbesganj (2 branches), Hardar, Jogbani, Kankhudia, Khagra, Maina, Nathpur, Ufrail Chowk, Urlaha. |
| 10. | Central Bank of India | Araria, Bhargama, Forbesganj, Jogbani, Narpatganj, Palasi, Sikti. |

| Sl. No. | Name of Bank | Name of centre |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 11. | Allahabad Bank | Barhara, Raniganj, Sisauna. |
| 12. | Bank of Baroda | Basaiti, Bistoria, Forbesganj, Raghunathpur, Rampur. |
| 13. | UCO Bank | Bathnaha, Gaigari, Jogbani, Manikpur. |
| 14. | United Bank of India | Rupauli |
| KISHANGANJ DISTRICT | | |
| 15. | Central Bank of India | Bahadurganj, Kishanganj. |
| 16. | State Bank of India | Kishanganj (2 branches), Thakurganj. |
| 17. | Allahabad Bank | Kishanganj. |
| 18. | UCO Bank | Kishanganj. |
| 19. | United Bank of India | Kishanganj. |
| 20. | Punjab National Bank | Rohania. |